population, Development and allotment of land for various uses including the Co-operative Group Housing Societies will be a continuous process till the project is fully implemented. It is not possible at this stage of the project to give any time frame for its completion and allotment of land to societies.

(c) No such complaints have been made to the D.D.A.

Out of turn allotment of flats by Vice-Chairman of DDA

2183. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Vice-Chairman of the Delhi Development Authority had allotted out of turn about 256 flats of various categories during the last nine months of 1989 and whether there was political pressure for doing so; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criterion for out of turn allotment of flats and also the policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). Out of turn allotments of DDA flats is done by Lt. Governor, Delhi/Vice-Chairman, D.D.A. on merits of each case and as per the guidelines laid down by the Government from time to time. According to current guidelines in the matter Lt. Governor, Delhi/Vice-Chairman, DDA can allot 2-1/2 per cent of the total flats allotted during a year on out of turn basis in cases of extreme compassion and hardship, as also widows and physically handicapped persons and in such other special cases which in their opinion deserves special consideration. 260 out of turn allotments were sanctioned during the last 9 months of the year 1989. Out of these only 16 were sanctioned by the then Vice-Chairman, DDA.

Exploitation of consumers

2184. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the concern expressed in December last by the President of National Consumer Protection Commission, Justice V. B. Eradi over the exploitation of consumers, stating that the Consumer Protection Act of 1986, has failed to provide respite; and

(b) if so, Government's Action Plan, if any, to to pulg the loopholes of the Act and to activate Government machinery for effectivly protecting the Consumers?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). The Government has received some proposals from the National Consumers Disputes Redressal Commission to carry out certain amendments in the Act to make it more effectively. These proposals are under consideration. The Government is pursuing States and Union Territories to expedite the setting up of redressal machinery under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Economic Development for the welfare of SC/ST during Seventh Five Year Plan period

2185. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only a small part of Government's investment during the Seventh Five Year Plan and in subplans for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was actually invested for their economic development; what has been the

total amount so far invested and its actual percentage used for economic development;

(b) whether Government have not been able to check exploitation of Tribals in land alienation, indebtedness, money lending and their forest-displacement;

(c) what steps Government propose to rectify the situation and improve the quality of life of the tribals; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to evolve a comprehensive national policy to provide socio-economic and cultural rehabilitation to the displaced tribals; if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The total investment by the Centre and Stattes in the Seventh Plan for the Tribal sub-Plan and the Special Component Plan is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 15,761.91 crores. The actual investment for economic development schemes is difficult to compute since many of the schemes not leading ot direct economic results also contribute partly to the economic development of these groups.

(b) and (c) Several State Governments have enacted laws and regulations to check exploitation of the tribals, especially in the areas of land alienation indebtedness and money lending.

(d) Government is alive to the problem of displacement of the Tribals, and a policy for their rehabilitation is being given shape to.

Establishment of indigenous fertiliser consultancy units

2186. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish indigenous fertiliser consultancy units;

(b) whether these units would affect the present fertiliser units like Projects and Development India Ltd., (PDIL) and Fertiliser and Engineering Designs Organisation (FEDO); and

(c) whether the present contract with Snam Progetti would be allowed to lapse?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is not such proposal at present.

Deficit of Rail facilities in the North Eastern Region

2187. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:

PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the region of the North Eastern Railways suffers from (i) deficit in railway network in K.M. (ii) shortage of trains and (iii) the poor quality of coaches used for the trains; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to accelerate the process of doubling of the track and increase in the frequency of trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Expansion of the existing railway network in the North-Eastern Region though sufficient to meet the present needs, is in hand by construction of 180 km MG line at a cost of Rs. 157 crores and 142 km of BG line at a cost of Rs. 388 crores. The existing train services are adequate. However, a new weekly Express train is proposed to be introduced form May 90 from Guwahati to Jammu Tawi. Efforts are also in hand to improve quality of coaches in service in the North Eastern Region.